

Stormwater runoff is precipitation from rain or snowmelt that flows over the ground. As it flows, it can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and deposit them into a storm sewer system or waterbody.

Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged *untreated* into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water.

Remember: Only Rain Down the Drain

To keep the stormwater leaving your home or workplace clean, follow these simple guidelines:

- ◆ Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.
- ◆ Repair auto leaks.
- ◆ Dispose of household hazardous waste, used auto fluids (antifreeze, oil, etc.), and batteries at designated collection or recycling locations.
- ◆ Clean up after your pet.
- ◆ Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface.
- ◆ Sweep up yard debris rather than hosing down areas. Compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- ◆ Clean paint brushes in a sink, not outdoors. Properly dispose of excess paints through a household hazardous waste collection program.
- ◆ Sweep up and properly dispose of construction debris like concrete and mortar.

